



JOHN ENGLER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LANSING

July 24, 2002



THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution Honoring Diane L. Smolen

Attached is a draft resolution honoring Diane L. Smolen who has retired from the Michigan Department of Education. Dr. Smolen served the State and children of Michigan for 17 years as an employee of the Departments of Education and Treasury.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated July 24, 2002, honoring Diane L. Smolen.

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RESOLUTION

DIANE L. SMOLEN

WHEREAS, Diane L. Smolen joined the Michigan Department of Education in 1985 as the Supervisor of the Postsecondary Information Unit in Higher Education Management Services to implement the postsecondary information database; and

WHEREAS, in 1990, Diane L. Smolen spent a year working in the Department of Education's Professional Preparation Unit implementing the then newly required Teacher Certification Tests; and

WHEREAS, from 1991 to 1997, Diane L. Smolen was the Supervisor of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), with the overall day-to-day responsibility for the development, administration, scoring, and reporting of the state assessment tests administered to students in grades 4, 5, 7, 8, and 11, and was also responsible for implementing complicated and controversial high school proficiency tests; and

WHEREAS, from 1997 to 1999, Diane L. Smolen served as the Director of the Office of Standards, Assessment, and Accreditation, and was responsible for School Improvement, Professional Development, Accreditation, Assessment, and Early Childhood Education; and

WHEREAS, effective January 1, 2000, the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) was transferred by Executive Order to the Department of Treasury, where Dr. Smolen served as Director of the Michigan Merit Award Program, and was primarily responsible for overseeing both the Merit Award and MEAP programs; and

WHEREAS, Diane L. Smolen returned to the Department of Education in 2002 as the Director of the Office of Education Options, Charters, and Choice, and was responsible for overseeing programs for Public School Academies, Gifted and Talented Education, Alternative Education, Schools of Choice, Advanced Placement, Troops to Teachers, and International Education; and

WHEREAS, during her 17 years of service in the fields of education in Michigan, Diane L. Smolen has demonstrated leadership and personal integrity; and

WHEREAS, Diane L. Smolen's greatest strengths include her willingness to implement new programs, make difficult decisions, and always place children first; and

WHEREAS, Diane L. Smolen has informed the Michigan Department of Education that she will retire from her active career in education; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education receive with deep regret the news of the well-deserved retirement of this able and distinguished educator; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education extend to Diane L. Smolen its highest regard and heartfelt gratitude for the dedication and expertise she has brought to the children of Michigan; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the Michigan State Board of Education express its fervent wish that Diane L. Smolen enjoys many years of happiness, good health, and rewarding experiences during her years of retirement.